

COMMON COUNCIL

July 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by President Peckinpaugh

**ROLL CALL:**

Mike Guffey	Present
Jeff Hancock	Present
Jerry Walden	Present
Aaron Dicken	Present
Mark Koger	Present
Lynn Perdue	Present
Rex Peckinpaugh	Present

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

- Vice President Hancock moved to accept the minutes from the former meeting.  
Councilman Guffey seconded. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Mike Guffey	Jeff Hancock	Jerry Walden	Aaron Dicken	Mark Koger	Lynn Perdue	Rex Peckinpaugh
Yes	Yes	Abstained	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- No Public Hearing

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

- No Proclamations

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- #07172023-1 AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS FOR THE PROVISIONOF SPECIFIED GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND FURTHER AMENDING THE CITY’S WRITTEN PLAN FOR EXPENDITURE OF \$15,000.00 for safety guardrails at the Osborne Park softball diamonds. President Peckinpaugh moved to approve. Councilman Walden seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Mike Guffey	Jeff Hancock	Jerry Walden	Aaron Dicken	Mark Koger	Lynn Perdue	Rex Peckinpaugh
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**ORDINANCES:**

- #3903 An Ordinance Amending CH. 95 of the City Code regarding brush pick up. Councilman Walden asked who would issue the citations. Building Inspectors office will handle those. Councilman Guffey questioned if we could fine the Companies that come thru and leave all the limbs when cutting trees for Duke Energy and places like them. That would require another discussion and Ordinance. President Peckinpaugh moved to approve on 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Councilman Dicken seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Mike Guffey	Jeff Hancock	Jerry Walden	Aaron Dicken	Mark Koger	Lynn Perdue	Rex Peckinpaugh
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Councilman Guffey:** Noted;

- Inquired about putting a sidewalk to on Washington St. to connect the trail to 24<sup>th</sup> and Washington. Rex mentioned the Sidewalk Program but this would be where no houses are. Mayor York mention that some of that may be in the flood zone. It will be looked into as to see if it can be done or not.

**Vice-President Hancock:** Noted;

- Stated semis are not following the truck route to Grede. Councilman Perdue stated to site them. Councilman Guffey wanted to let everyone know these trucks are not owned by Grede and need to be cited.
- Some residents are requesting a street light at Criswell and Midway. He will get with all the residents in the area and see how many want it.
- Inquired about all the flags in the McGrew addition. They are from the gas company, where they are installing new gas lines and meters.
- Thanked everyone in involved in the addition to the skate park. It looks great and a lot of people were there Saturday.
- Stated to many Officers are being killed in the line of Duty, challenged everyone if you are out to thank all First Responders for their service.

**Councilman Walden:** Noted;

- Flags in the areas are getting mowed over.
- Paving covers that have been placed are they temporarily there to keep the gravel in. Director Barker stated, they would be coming back to finish, but no final date has been given. Councilman Guffey stated part of the problem is they start it and don't finish.
- Mentioned the State Rd 3 Project from INDOT and asked for an update. Director Barker stated they would have a raised median with side walks on both sides of Rd 3 and you would not be able to turn left anywhere on road 3 unless it was at an intersection between Trojan Lane and Broad Street.

**Councilman Dicken:** Noted;

- Thank everyone involved in the new addition at Baker Park. His kids love to go there and play. Dicken gave a little history about Sidney Baker, whom the park was named after, and stated he sent some pictures and had conversation with one of his granddaughters.

**Councilman Koger:** Noted;

- Asked Attorney Harvey if the city could do some patch work at the railroad crossings at "A", "G" and "I" Ave. Attorney Harvey stated he believed we could but would check into it.

**Councilman Perdue:** Noted;

- Stated, Webb's should be finishing up tomorrow and the light poles are in and will be installed but a date has not been set for that yet.

**President Peckinpugh:** Noted;

- Stated, 9 to 10 years ago there was not much going on in the city. As I drove around this week, I saw the Farmers Market, tennis tournament, softball tournament, baseball tournament and the skate park. So many new and fun activities for people to enjoy now. Everyone should take advantage of them all.
- Stated the parks are looking amazing.
- Thanked all the Department Heads and their employees for all the hard work in making things happen.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

- Director Barker stated Midwest will be back in town this week to do the ADA ramps and then in 3-4 weeks should start milling for paving.
- Mayor York expressed his excitement for everything we have going on in New Castle. The expansion of the Skate Park was a big success and thanked Poynter Bros for holding the event Saturday. The new addition at Baker Park has been very well received. Frisbee Golf is becoming a big attraction at Baker Park also. Thanked everyone involved in making this all happen.

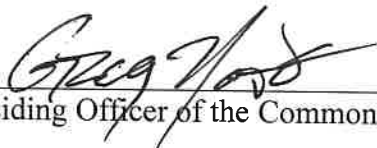
#### **CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE COUNCIL:**

- William Huber spoke before the Council regarding funds that were raised by St Annes Church to add a sign to the grass area of the City Building with an arrow directing someone who may need it to the baby box on the side of the fire station. Mayor York and President Peckinpugh asked that he bring back an idea of what the sign might look like before bringing to a vote.

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- Carrie Barrett, Mainstreet, talked about what a great asset the landbank has become for the city. Mike Broyles, with the landbank, got up and spoke on the number of homes and properties the landbank has acquired. Mr. Broyles, also stated the County has reached out about setting up a landbank and doing away with the online sales of properties. This would keep people from out of state buying the properties and then let them go blight.

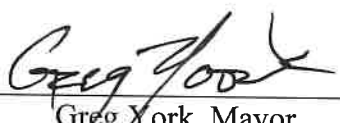
Meeting Adjourned Councilman Dicken

  
Presiding Officer of the Common Council

ATTEST:

  
Brenda Grider, Clerk Treasurer

Approved by me this 17<sup>th</sup> of July, 2023.

  
Greg York, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Brenda Grider, Clerk Treasurer